Details of export for cashew kernels are given below :—

Year	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1989-90	45807	365.07
1990-91	49812	441.40
1991-92	64692	668.45

(Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta).

State-wise export figures of cashew kernels are not maintained.

(c) to (e) The most serious problems facing cashew industry are :

(i) indigenous production is not enough and the industry has to take recourse to substantial imports; and

(ii) low levels of productivity.

The Ministry of Agriculture has, therefore, taken in hand a programme for integrated development of cashewnut in India, Under this programme, measures such as area expension, distribution of improved planting material, pest control, popularisation of clonal cultivation, adoption of comprehensive technology to increase productivity of existing gardens, etc. The Ministry of Agriculture has allocated a sum of Rs. 30.00 crores for the integrated development of cashewnut in India during the Enghth Five Year Plan.

The exchange rate adjustments the introduction of unified exchange rate, simplification of pre-shipment inspection procedures are some of the steps taken by Government to increase exports. Apart from the above measures. Cashew Export Promotion Council of India participates in exhibitions abroad, arranges buyer seller meets to have interaction with importers in other countries and sponsors delegations to countries which have potential, for improving exports.

Illegal purchase of Tobacco

3326. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 10 million Kgs. of FCV tobacco is being purchased outside the auction platforms of Tobacco Board, illegally, by traders, both in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka every year:

(b) whether it is also a fact that the illegally purchased tobacco is being used in cigarette manufacturing to avoid payment of excise duty to the tune of several crores of rupees;

(c) if so. what is the number of cases booked by Tobacco Board against traders who indulged in such illegal transactions, both in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh;

and

(d) what is the action taken against the culprits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Some instances have come to the notice of the Tobacco Board.

(b) There is no excise duty on raw tobacco.

(c) and (d) During 1990 Andhra auction season 10 cases were detected and during 1992 Karnataka auction season 7

cases were detected. Actions such as issuing warning to concerned traders, levying fine for renewal of registration, issuing show cause notice etc. were taken by the Board.

(ङ) उक्त बर्तनों का किन-किन देशों को निर्यात किया गया था ?

(मूल्य करोड़ रु. में)

मद	1990–91	1991–92	अप्रैल सितम्बर, 1992
ई० पी० एन० एस० केयर	24.96	41.01	23.40
पीतल के बर्तन	0.30	0.36	0.36
तांबे के बर्तन	0.26	0.51	0.37
योग	25.52	41.88	24.13

(स्रोत : इंजीनियरी निर्यात संवर्धन परिषद)

(च) उपर्युक्त मदों का 30 से भी अधिक देशों को निर्यात किया जा रहा है । इनमें से प्रमुख देश ये हैं—संयुक्त राज्य अमरीका, जर्मनी, फ्रांस, इटली, स्पेन, नीदरलैंड, आस्ट्रेलिया, बेल्जियम, कनाडा, ब्रिटेन, यूनान, हांगकांग, स्वीडन, इजराएल, न्यूजीलैंड, पुर्तगाल, सिंगापुर और डेनमार्क ।

Performance of E.O.Us and FIZs

3328. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have evaluated the performance of 100 per cent Export Oriented units in different sectors and Free Trade Zones over the year;

(b) if so, what are the main achievements alnd operational/administrative drawbacks of the schemes and the action taken proposed to be taken thereon;

(c) whether to make up for shortcomings Government are seriously considering to set up a Free Port in the country to take advantage of liberalisation and globalisation process on the economic front; and

(d) the details of the decision taken/ proposed to be taken in the matter

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : *(a)* Yes, Sir.

(b) Exports by units in Export Processing Zones/Free trade zones and EOUs increased from Rs. 1602.7 Crores in 1990-91 to Rs. 2157.1 Crores in 1991-92. To cope with the changing international scenario, units under these schemes require a smooth working environment, as well as fiscal and other supports to increase competitiveness. Steps taken with this in view, inter-alia, include speedier approval procedures, simplification of policy framework, 100% foreign equity participation,